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*President*



**Senate Bill 261: An Act Concerning Recommendations by  
the  
Department of Motor Vehicles  
Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association  
Transportation Committee  
January 27, 2021**

Chairmen Cassano and Lemar, Ranking Members Somers and Carney and Members of the Transportation Committee, the Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association proudly represents 270 new car dealers in our state. We would like to thank you for the opportunity to address two sections of Senate Bill 261: An Act Concerning Recommendations by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association appreciates the support and resources provided by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Throughout the pandemic, our dealerships have remained open as part of the essential workforce delivering access to our services to Connecticut's frontline workers. We provided car repair and sales services to the general public. Additionally, we provided support for first responders, ambulances, and fleets of grocery delivery trucks. All along, we have worked closely with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

We would like to offer the following comments on two sections of Senate Bill 261:

Section 22 permits the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to refuse to grant or renew a license to sell cars in Connecticut if the applicant has been found liable in a civil action. While we understand the intent of this language, we are concerned that this language is broad and could result in serious consequences for potentially small civil liabilities.

Section 23 requires a seller to return a deposit to a buyer if the seller fails to provide written proof of approved financing prior to the execution of a written purchase order. We recognize the importance of transparency throughout the purchase process, but we are concerned that this language provides little flexibility.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to 860-293-2500 or [sfryxell@ctcar.org](mailto:sfryxell@ctcar.org).